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PAGE 01 STATE 002050

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PAGE 02 STATE 002050

KUWAIT PASS DOHA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN, PFOR, AFSP, XD, XF, XI

SUBJECT: ANNUAL POLICY ASSESSMENTS;

BEIRUT POUCH BAGHDAD ALSO FOR ACTION

FOR AMBASSADOR OR CHARGE FROM ATHERTON

1. I APPRECIATE YOUR POSITIVE RESPONSES TO MY SEPTEMBER

9, 1974 LETTER REGARDING OUR BUREAU-WIDE POLICY ASSESSMENT EFFORT, AND LOOK FORWARD TO THE RECEIPT OF YOUR ASSESSMENTS BY MARCH 31.

2. A MAJOR AIM OF THIS ENDEAVOR IS TO PROVIDE US AND PERTINENT OTHER AGENCIES SHARPER POLICY FOCUS AND A BETTER SENSE OF PRIORITIES REGARDING ALLOCATIONS OF PERSONNEL AND PROGRAM RESOURCES. THUS, I REGARD THE ASSESSMENT EFFORT AS IMPORTANT FROM STANDPOINT OF BOTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT.

3. TO THE EXTENT WE USE THIS TOOL WELL, WE SHOULD BE ABLE (A) TO MEET SOME HIGH PRIORITY RESOURCE NEEDS FROM WITHIN THE BUREAU MORE EXPEDITIOUSLY, AND (B) TO STRENGTHEN OUR

CASE FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES. IN AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF SHIFTING POLICY PRIORITIES AND DIMINISHING RESOURCES, WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO BE ON THE ALERT FOR SENSIBLE REPROGRAMMING OPPORTUNITIES.

4. THE STANDARD FORMAT FOR ANNUAL POLICY ASSESSMENTS (FAM 212.4 AND ITS TRANSMITTAL LETTER, POL-27, DECEMBER 28, 1973) SHOULD, WITH MINOR VARIATIONS, SERVE OUR NEEDS.

A. YOUR ASSESSMENT SHOULD COMMENCE WITH AN IDENTIFICATION OF U.S. INTERESTS, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES PER FAM 212.4.C(1).

B. ON THE SPECIFIC STAFFING AND FUNDING PROJECTIONS SOUGHT IN 212.4.B(5), PLEASE PROJECT THESE REQUIREMENTS OVER THE NEXT

PAGE 03 STATE 002050

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THREE FISCAL YEARS, FY 76, 77 (15 MONTHS), AND 78. IF YOU HAVE ALREADY SUPPLIED PERSONNEL PROJECTIONS, PLEASE RECAPITULATE IN YOUR ASSESSMENT.

C. I WOULD LIKE YOU TO REVIEW PERSONALLY AND COMMENT ON NOT ONLY STATE'S BUT ALSO ALL OTHER USG AGENCIES' PERSONNEL AND PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS, PRESENT AND FUTURE. WE NEED TO IDENTIFY, FOR EXAMPLE, ACTIVITIES WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN IMPORTANT TO U.S. INTERESTS IN THE PAST BUT WHICH MAY HAVE TO BE REGARDED NOW OR IN NEAR FUTURE AS MARGINAL IN RELATION TO OVERALL PRIORITY RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS.

5. AM AWARE THIS REQUIREMENT CONSTITUTES SUBSTANTIAL BURDEN FOR MOST OF YOU, BUT I BELIEVE ITS IMPORTANCE JUSTIFIES YOUR PERSONAL ATTENTION. IF YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES ARE OR BECOME SUCH THAT YOU REQUIRE MORE TIME BEYOND MARCH DUE-DATE, PLEASE LET ME KNOW.
KISSINGER

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